

MINUTES

UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING MEETING

MARCH 30, 2007

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 7:30 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 7:33 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 10:00 a.m.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Laura Poe
Shirlene Kimball

Conducting:

Diane Forster-Burke

Board Members Present:

Pam Rice
Diane Forster-Burke
Mary Williams
Helen Zsohar

Guests:

Steven Nelson, MPA student
Marshall Mitchell, MPA student
Taylor Parcel, MPA student
Sally Cantwell, Weber – U of U

Division Staff:

F. David Stanley, Division Director

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Minutes:

The January 19, 2007 and the February 23, 2007 minutes were approved as written. All Committee members in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Utah Career College:

Ms. Richards has been hired full time with Western Governors University and will work on a contract basis with Utah Career College until the program is NLNAC accredited. Committee members indicated there is concern with the dual role because of the amount of time it takes to start up a new program and be successful. Current rules only require sufficient

faculty. Dr. Williams indicated she attended a national meeting where concern was expressed regarding the Western Governors University online program that does not have a clinical component.

Ms. Richards, Nate Herrmann, Lynell Fulkerson and Charisse Cole from Utah Career College met with the Committee to discuss the concerns of the Board and the low NCLEX-RN pass rate of the first cohort of graduates. Ms. Fulkerson indicated for the first cohort of students, the program did not have a good method for screening the candidates. She indicated that these students were accepted based on an open door policy and were not carefully screened. She indicated they have implemented a screening process to include a personal phone interview, submit an essay which will be graded by the librarian, submit a current resume and have experience in the health care field; go through a background check, and if achieves a certain score, then proceed to a personal interview. Committee members requested that they review the student files and look at high school and college GPA's to see if there is a correlation on who passed and who failed and their admission GPA. The first cohort average grade was 96%. Committee members expressed concern regarding apparent grade inflation. Ms. Fulkerson indicated that the program is an accelerated program and the students did not keep up with the required reading, and some did not even open the textbooks. Committee members questioned how the students received a passing grade if they did not read or open the textbooks. Ms. Richards indicated that exams were on course presentations and not on the reading assignments.

Ms. Richards also indicated it was difficult obtaining adequate clinical sites. She stated the program could not find OB experiences for the first cohort and those students had to complete the hours in simulated labs. Committee members questioned if the same faculty member who teaches the didactic portion of the course also teaches the clinicals? Ms. Richards indicated that they do. Ms. Richards indicated they do not use preceptors. However, the students are only allowed to observe at Altaview and St. Marks. Committee members questioned whether or not faculty members

are there on site? Ms. Fulkerson stated no, but are at the other sites. Ms. Fulkerson also stated the hospital would only allow two students per rotation and they can not get the faculty to follow only two students.

Ms. Forster-Burke expressed concern that the program is using the Board as a consultant and indicated the program needs to hire a consultant with the expertise in developing a curriculum and administering a program.

Ms. Poe indicated the Committee would like to have a follow up report indicating what has been implemented to improve the NCLEX pass rates. Committee members suggested the program look at the quality of the clinicals because the current process does not appear to be meeting standards established in Rule. The program needs to add qualified faculty members; qualified clinicals and qualified students.

Committee members questioned Ms. Richards regarding her role with the Western Governor University. Ms. Richards indicated she is the coordinator of curriculum for nursing and is working with them full time. She stated she has contracted with Utah Career College for no more than 20 hours per week until the program receives NLNAC accreditation. Committee members expressed concern regarding this situation. Ms. Richards indicated Ms. Fulkerson is now the nursing coordinator at Utah Career College. Ms. Richards stated she is no longer a faculty member and is not teaching any courses. Ms. Fulkerson indicated she started with Utah Career College November 2005 and is actively teaching in the program. Committee members requested the program submit a letter with the date Ms. Fulkerson began as director of the nursing program and also to submit a vitae. Committee members also requested a list of all full time and adjunct faculty members.

Ms. Forster-Burke requested that the program address the Committees concerns by mid April.

Dr. Zsohar made a Motion to have the Division write a letter to the Western Governors University expressing concern that the curriculum coordinator does not have

formal education in curricular development and had no demonstrated ability to successfully start a new program. Ms. Rice seconded the Motion. All Committee members in favor.

Utah Valley State College:

Utah Valley State College submitted curricular changes and a request to begin a satellite campus in Heber City. Didactic at the satellite campus will be taught by web cast. Dr. Zoshar made a Motion to approve the curricular changes and to approve the satellite campus in Heber City. Ms. Rice seconded the Motion. All Board members in favor.

Indiana State University request for approval to allow students to receive in-state precepted clinicals:

Ms. Rice made a Motion that the original motion to table the approval until rules have been written be upheld. Dr. Zoshar seconded the Motion. All Committee members in favor.

Stevens-Henager Site Visit Report:

Ms. Rice reported on the site visit to Stevens-Henager College. The program is accepting students for pre-requisites, but is not currently accepting nursing students. Ms. Rice indicated the program has changed the number of hours from 108 to 105.5 hours per quarter. The library looked fine but there are no electronic services. The program owns the nursing textbooks and does not require the student to buy their own books. The clinical contracts for Brigham City, Davis Hospital and Pioneer Valley Hospital were not signed. Gerry Hanson will be the consultant, however, she has not yet signed a contract. They are accepting 120 students, but only have one faculty member in addition to the director. Ms. Rice stated that the program is no where near ready to accept nursing students.

Ms. Rice made a Motion that the program can not begin to teach nursing courses in April. Prior to offering nursing coursework, the Board will need to conduct another site visit. The program needs to have the consultant sign a contract, have faculty contracts signed, clinical site contracts signed, supplies, and curricular changes made. The program can not advertise that they are beginning a nursing program in April. The Motion was seconded by Dr. Williams. All Board members in favor.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at 8:00 a.m.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

Date Approved (ss) Diane Forster-Burke
Chairperson, Education Committee

Date Approved (ss) Laura Poe
Executive Administrator, Board of Nursing, Bureau
Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing